



THE WESTLEIGH SCHOOL
Aspiring & Achieving Together

HEADTEACHER: MR CARLTON BRAMWELL *BEd (Hons), MSc, NPQH*

2nd December 2021

Dear Parents/Carer,

Covid Home Testing and Important Reminders

Following the most recent Government guidance, we have been asked to reinforce the importance of self-testing at home to help prevent the spread of COVID-19:

- About 1 in 3 people with COVID-19 do not have symptoms but can still infect others.
- Rapid tests help to check if someone has COVID-19. If people test positive and self-isolate, it helps stop the virus spreading.
- Research shows rapid tests are a reliable test for COVID-19. They give a quick result and do not need to be sent to a lab.
- Even if you're vaccinated, you could still catch the virus or pass it on. Doing rapid tests helps to protect yourself and others.

We therefore remind you that all students should take a Lateral Flow Test twice weekly and report their results to <https://www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result> Reporting your result is as important as taking the test.

Your child will be provided with a box of 7 tests this week to cover them until the Christmas break, with a further box provided before we finish on 17th December 2021.

Please remember that Lateral Flow Tests should only be used for asymptomatic testing. If your child has Covid symptoms, you must arrange for a PCR test as soon as possible, your child should isolate until the result is received. The following link provides full details

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/testing/get-tested-for-coronavirus/>

Please ensure that you keep school updated of any symptoms or positive LFT results, and update us as soon as a PCR negative or positive result is received so we can keep our information up to date for safeguarding and reporting purposes.

Vaccinations – Confirmation of date

The date for Covid Vaccinations for 12-16 year old students in school has been confirmed for **6th December 2021**. All students for whom we have received consent will receive their vaccination on this day. If you have not yet consented and wish to do so following the latest Government announcements, we will accept your Vaccination consent form up to Friday 3rd December 2021.

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Post Christmas Testing in School

Schools have been requested to test students in school prior to their return in January 2022, with a second test done at home 3-4 days later.

Testing of students will take place in school the day after planned Inset (4th January) on Wednesday 5th January 2022.

School will therefore be closed on the following dates:

- **Tuesday 4th January: Closed to all students**
- **Wednesday 5th January: Closed to all students, except to attend for Covid testing**

In order to stagger testing and help manage queues, we ask students to attend between the following times:

- 9.30am – 11.00am – Key stage 3 (Year 7, 8 and 9)
- 11.30am – 12.30pm – Key Stage 4 (Year 10 and 11)

Siblings may attend together and if unable to attend at their allocated time, can attend the other session. We will keep the testing site open until 1.30pm in case of need.

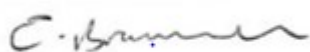
If you have already consented, it is not necessary to provide consent again. If you have not yet consented to testing but wish your child to be tested in school on this or future occasions as needed, please complete the online form here:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1KA6k2TETM3CHbPoxc6b6DeI-aWxFy4erUPDv8S3Oyl/edit>

Masks

A thank you to all parents and students who are supporting the requirement for masks to be worn in school corridors and communal areas. We ask for your continued support in ensuring your child has a mask every day to ensure our school community is kept as safe as possible, in line with government guidance, leading up to the Christmas break.

Yours sincerely,



Carlton Bramwell
Headteacher